

**DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 16, 2012**

Members Present: Lardizzzone, Goss, Carroll, Corsa, Harden, Keithley, Lank, McMullen, Newstadt, Newman, Sarg, Showell, Thompson, and Weir

Members Excused: Wasson and Evans

Staff Present: Davila and Peterson

Introduction of Guest(s): Daniel Hendee (VAMC Director), Ginny Yelland (VAMC), Jerry Stauffer and Myron Smith (DELVETS), Elizabeth Byers Jiron (Stand Down), Michelle Lee (Community Blue Print) and Jack Tillmon (The Alliance of Disabled Veterans)

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to our Nation's Flag.

Ms. Yelland spoke about the manning and functionality of the Delaware Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs), answered questions and discussion followed.

Mr. Smith reported that he participated in the Stand Down in October and spoke about the Golden Corral Restaurant's contributions to the DAV.

Mrs. Byers Jiron reported on the results of the October Stand Down and listed the individuals and organizations that participated and their contributions. She answered questions and discussion followed.

Ms. Lee spoke about the Community Blue Print's mission and goals and Commissioner Sarg elaborated.

Mr. Peterson congratulated the new Chairman and thanked the outgoing Chairman. He reported that the Veterans Home is putting out an employee satisfaction survey and provided an update on the Home. He spoke about the Regional National Association meeting at Dover Downs and transportation problems the Home is experiencing and possible solutions. Commissioner Carroll questioned updating the Veterans Home wish list and he was told it would be done by the next Commission meeting.

MOTION BY MCMULLEN TO ACCEPT SEPTEMBER COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES, SECONDED BY CORSA, MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Carroll indicated that he had a correction to the statement he made at the September meeting. His statement was that a proclamation had been developed for National Purple Heart Day for the State of Delaware; he would like to correct that to read that the proclamation is being developed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL

Mr. Davila indicated that there is a casual/seasonal position open at the Northern Cemetery.

NORTHERN CEMETERY

Commissioner Harden reported on the “Big Check” Presentation held on October 10, 2012.

HEALTH SERVICES

Commissioner Corsa addressed the issue of veterans losing VA medication benefits when they go into the Veterans Home.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

Chairman Lardizzone said the Committee would start pushing for bills in January that were not passed last year.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Commissioner Weir reported that he represented the Commission at a dedication ceremony held in Smyrna on September 20, 2012.

COMMEMORATIVE AFFAIRS

Commissioner Lank announced that the DAV will host Veterans Day at the Delaware Memorial Bridge on November 11, 2012.

ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS

Carroll (MOPH) – The USPS will issue a new Purple Heart forever stamp and it should be available shortly.

Goss (KWVA) – On November 13, 2012, the Cheer Center in Georgetown will be honoring all veterans with a free dinner and entertainment.

Harden (WAVES) – At their September meeting, they welcomed a 25-year retired WAVE to join their organization. They also sent a check to the VAMC for Canteen books. She attended the Medal of Honor monument dedication in Dover.

Lardizzone (DAV) – He attended the Stand Down and plans to go to the Cheer Center. He will be away for a few weeks on vacation.

McMullen (AFSA) – He attended the Stand Down, the Medal of Honor Ceremony and the MILCON briefing at Dover AFB. His organization has declared the 14-20 October as National Legislative Week.

Newman (VFW) – The National Order of the Cooties Tomb Trek will lay wreaths at Arlington from November 2-4, 2012. On November 12, 2012, their monthly Council Administration meeting will be held at Legislative Hall.

Newstadt (JWV) – Saturday, October 20, 2012, will be the Annual Military Heritage Day at Fort DuPont. He attended the Wills for Heroes event in Wilmington.

Showell (At Large) – She reported on current National Guard construction and the location of the new Delaware National Guard Headquarters.

Thompson (MCL) – Their Department meeting will be held on October 27, 2012, in Dover.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION BY MCMULLEN TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A BRICK FOR THE GOLD STAR MOTHERS MONUMENT, SECONDED BY LARDIZZONE, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY SARG TO ADD COMMUNITY BLUE PRINT TO THE HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE, SECONDED BY KEITHLEY, MOTION CARRIED.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 20, 2012 (10:00 AM)

**LOCATION: Robbins Bldg, 802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100
Dover, DE**

ADJOURNED